

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Public Hearing on Family-to-Family

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To date, the Foster Care Unit at Homes for Black Children has provided service to 40 families and 130 children utilizing the concepts and practice of Family to Family.

I have found the most outstanding positives of the Family to Family process to be:

- 1. The children's trauma is reduced because they are maintained in their own neighborhood when possible and appropriate.**
- 2. The children can continue to attend their own schools and maintain relationships with friends and family.**
- 3. The Family Case Reviews:**
 - allow the parents to be active in planning for their children**
 - keep the parents abreast of the entire foster care process**
 - help reduce discord between the parents, extended family members**
 - provide added support to the children**
 - improve relationships between the birth families, the agency and the foster families**